HON'BLE SHRI G.S.SINGHVI, THE CHIEF JUSTICE
AND
HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE C.V. NAGARJUNA REDDY

WRIT PETITION No. 27104 OF 2006

Between:

Telugu Bhashodyama Samakhya,
Hyderabad & another

..... Petitioners

AND

State of Andhra Pradesh
Rep. By its Secretary to Govt. School Education
Department, Hyderabad & another

.....Respondents

:: O R D E R ::

Counsel for the petitioners : Shri A. Ramalingeswara Rao

Counsel for the respondents : Government Pleader for
School Education

Dated: 29.12.2006

Per G.S.SINGHVI, CJ

In this petition, the petitioners have prayed for issue of a writ of mandamus to the respondents to issue instructions to all the educational institutions including the schools run by the Government to impart education to the students up to class V in Telugu medium subject to the protection granted to the minorities under Article 350-A of the Constitution of India.

Petitioner No.1 – Telugu Bhashodyama Samakhya is a registered society. It was launched on 21.02.2003 for protection of Telugu language spoken by nearly 15 crores of people in and around the State of Andhra Pradesh. It is said to be successor of Mathru Basha Samithi which had been working for the promotion of the cause of Telugu language for over nine years. Petitioner No.2 is an Editor of a monthly Telugu magazine titled 'Nadustunna Charitra'. In paragraph 3 of his affidavit, Shri C. Dharma Rao, Chairman of petitioner No.1 has given the details of various schools operating in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the medium of education in primary schools and pleaded that even though Telugu is being spoken by vast majority of people in the State of Andhra Pradesh, the State Government has not made Telugu language compulsory in the educational institutions.

The petitioners' grievance is that on account of the Government's failure to make the mother tongue of the majority of the people as language of instruction in the schools, a number of schools are opting for English medium and if this tendency is not curbed, there will be great adverse impact on the future generation of the State.

We have heard learned counsel for the petitioners. Though the cause sought to be espoused by the petitioners is very laudable, this Court, in exercise of its power under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, cannot issue mandatory direction to the State Government to introduce a particular language in the Government primary and other schools. Learned counsel for the petitioners could not draw our attention to any constitutional or statutory provisions under which the State Government is obliged to introduce Telugu as the medium of instruction in primary and other schools or restrain the management of the schools from introducing English or other languages.

For the reason aforestated, the writ petition is dismissed.

As a sequel to dismissal of the writ petition, W.P.M.PNo.34842 of 2006 filed by the petitioners for expediting hearing of the appeal is disposed of as infructuous.

G.S.SINGHVI, CJ

C.V. NAGARJUNA REDDY, J

29.12.2006
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